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## THE RATIFICATION AT BOSTON.

This was well done. The Bay City was out in all her Whig strength on the evening of the 5th inst., and made old Faneuil echo with their shouts of welcome to their Delegates.

The meeting was organized—John C. Park acting as chairman. Resolutions were passed of the right stamp, declaring HENRY CLAY to be "the one, the sole, the single and only rallying point of all good Whigs throughout the country."—THEODORE FRANKLIN, as his fit associate, welcoming again DANIEL WEBSTER, the defender of the Constitution, as, with strong voice and purpose, he summons patriots to their duty, and adopting as the pledge of Whig firmness, and the presence of Whig intent—the glorious sentiment—

"Our cause is just—our Union is perfect."

One simultaneous AYE resounded through the Hall, as the question was put on the resolutions, and three hearty cheers followed.

Jonathan Chapman rose and gave a detailed account of the Baltimore Convention.

Daniel Webster, amid the most enthusiastic applause, the waving of hats by the men, and of handkerchiefs by the women—stood up, the pride of Boston and of New England. A warmer welcome he never received from any people! Silence being restored, he said—

"I do not come among you to night to extol the character of the gentleman who has been selected as the Whig candidate for President. I have already said that the nomination meets my entire and hearty approbation. (Cheers.) I come neither

—to bury Clay, nor to praise him!"

"To praise, to commend Henry Clay! For me who have spoken so often, here and elsewhere, my joy in the merits of him whom the Whigs have selected as their candidate, without whose aid my knowledge extends—a dissenting voice, for me to praise him were indeed

"Wasteful and ridiculous excess!"

And as to burying him, gentlemen, however appropriate that may be to those who are his competitors, it is very inappropriate to him—(Great laughing and cheering.)

I come with equally sincere gratification, gentlemen, with the nomination for Vice President. (Applause.) I hardly dare venture to speak of the gentleman named for this office, because, beside my great respect for him as a public man, besides my high regard for his public virtues and public services, I cherish a particular, I may say an affectionate, esteem for the loveliness of his private character, for all those virtues which adorn his private life—(Cheers.)

Gentlemen, our candidates are now before us, and the question naturally comes up, what are we to do? The field is open—the career is before us. What remains for us to do in order to accomplish our own wishes and the wishes of our whole party?

Gentlemen, the first pledge of our coming success is our own Union. A union of purpose, a union of action, such as has but once before existed, since the termination of Mr. Adams' administration.

Next, gentlemen, to the good men we have in this our own Union, is that which is nearly as advantageous for us, though not so good for our adversaries—the notorious disunion in their ranks! It is quite certain that the party opposed to us is broken into fragments, and undecided which way to look. But we may not rely too much on this discord of theirs. They have among them strong principles of cohesion, and we do not know what glue and putty and solder may do to bring the party together again. (Laughter.)

But more particularly, what are we to do? It has ever been my aim, if I could, to address myself on public occasions to the promotion of some particular good purpose; and if the time has ever existed when I was supposed to speak but for this, I trust it has gone by. I wish to make my system of thought and of action conducive to the great public good, and so far as in me lies, I shall always endeavor so to do. And I hope the few remarks, of a practical nature, which I have to offer, will not be considered as opposed to this spirit.

Our candidates are before us. The principles of the contending parties are well known to the people, and it remains for the people, but more particularly for the young men—the active and intelligent young men of the country—to take their part in the work which is to be done. (Cheers.)

There are two agencies to be invoked, the intelligent young men of the country, and an intelligent and honest press. The battle is with them, and theirs shall be the honor and the glory of the conquest.

The Press! Who is there at the present day that does not regard it as the great lever of the human mind? For myself, I honor the press. I honor all its honest and conscientious conductors. I regard it as one of society's greatest agents for good or for evil. It addresses mankind daily. Not a valley nor a mountain-side, not a village nor a hamlet, not a home nor a man, but has its happiness, its knowledge, its moral sentiment, I may say, more or less affected by the press. And while I would not diminish the responsibility resting upon its conductors, I am willing to accord to their duties, well performed, my entire and hearty approbation. I wish to see no diminution in the zeal, no flagging in the ardent exertion of the Whig Press of the country. I may say that I even wish to see even more argument, more reason, more rational persuasion in its columns; because I do believe, I candidly avow my opinion, that many honest men in the country rank themselves among our opponents through ignorance, or misrepresentation of our principles. Our great want has been to reach the mind—to touch the intellect of these, and this can best be done through a well regulated press.

My purpose, now, as I have said, is to offer some few practical suggestions on the state of our country and party. One leading fact which addresses itself to the mind in the connection I have been pursuing, is that in our New England there are not only many cities, towns and vil-

lages, which are the centres of general information, but many hamlets removed from the sphere of its influence. I submit it to every man in all acquainted with the country, whether this is not true. In the cities and large towns, where papers are daily printed, and received by every mail, from all quarters of the country; where one man meets another, and in exchanges intelligence with his neighbor every hour, there you will find forty-five out of such cities, towns and villages, to be Whig—(Loud cheers.) But along the mountain sides in the remote glens and recesses of civilization, where a man has access to, and reads but one newspaper, adhering to one school of politics, what can we expect from such a man but entire acquiescence in that school, and determined aversion to all others?

Now, my friends, I say here, as I said at Baltimore, we must make ourselves Missionaries. We must carry light into dark places. (Cheers.) We must raise our voices and expound our principles; we must diffuse knowledge among those who are not so favored as ourselves. And for this end, there is no more advantageous means than public addresses and meetings, throughout the whole country. It is of the highest importance to meet men in their own localities; because an invitation to attend a public address will always attract more or less of those opposed in sentiment to the speaker, and there is ever some chance, that truth spoken, or new views presented, may change such hearers from their erroneous to a correct opinion.—And therefore, I say that it is not sufficient for us to hold great conventions, but we must go abroad amongst the people; we must endeavor to convince the unconvinced; to argue conclusively and persuasively against error; to bring our neighbors into an adherence to those great principles of government and political action, on which we think the preservation of the country and constitution depend. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, there is a power in truth—which under the most inauspicious circumstances, finally works itself out, and makes itself acknowledged.

Fellow citizens, in my opinion, the great principles of the federal constitution and the real interests of the country received a shock sixteen years ago, in the election of General Jackson to the Presidency, from which it is but just recovering. (Great cheering.) It is hardly too much to say that he caused a Revolution (renewed applause)—I do not so mean in the strict sense of the word—but I do mean to say that by the strength of his determination, by the force of his iron will, which would submit to no counsel, by the principles he carried into his cabinet, by the opinions to which he adhered, and on which he acted—pretty much in defiance of law and the constitution—he did much to unhinge the liberty and destroy the well-being of the republic. His doctrines tended directly to the subversion of all free government. He pronounced distinctly that he was the only representative of the whole American people—Where did he learn that doctrine?

The constitution speaks of no sole representative of the people—it speaks of the President as no representative at all. The people choose their representatives themselves by states and in districts; our whole fabric of government is a limited system, and when any man takes it upon himself to say he is the whole representation of the people, he means just what Gen. Jackson did. And what did he mean? I will not say he did not mean to govern well—as he understood the matter (laughter)—but he meant to govern at any rate. No will but his own should have any effect. This was his idea, and while the constitution speaks of checks and balances, his idea, his understanding was that his single department of government embraced and absorbed all the others. (Piaudities.)

I think the country is now returning from this doctrine. Certainly, no one now pretends to walk in the footsteps of General Jackson, with his own gigantic strides, (laughter and cheers.) and I therefore incline to do just what Gen. Jackson did. And what did he do? He was to come back to a just view of the various relations of government, and to a reasonable consideration of its powers and duties. (Much Applause.) But I will pursue this point no further.

The Whigs have selected their candidates and presented them to the people. The principles they profess and will maintain, are consistent with those which the Whig party has maintained up to the present time. And what change do we want in those principles? We want under their influence, when they are carried out, all the interest of the country springing up fresh and budding, like the shrubs and the plants and the flowers, under the genial ministry of spring, putting forth their shoots luxuriantly, and bearing abundant fruit.

What need, therefore, of change from these effects? Why not continue to support such principles and enjoy such fruits undisturbed by new agitations—undisturbed by novel experiments? (Cheers.)

As I have said, we can elect both our candidates. (Vigorous applause.) It is not in the chapter of probabilities, hardly in the chapter of accidents, that they can be beaten. Whether one or the other of the gentlemen spoken of as opposing candidates shall run against us, or whether they shall unite in a joint team that team is sure of defeat. (Cheers.) Let us rejoice, then, in the prospect before us. Blessed by Providence with personal good health, with prosperity in business, with bright hopes for the laboring and industrial classes, and with a certainty of success in the political contest to come—I beg to ask what you, gentlemen, wish to do, on this public occasion, to signify my hearty concurrence in all the proceedings of the Baltimore Convention; (Enthusiastic applause.) And I pledge myself, my character, to exert whatever influence it may possess to carry into effect the nominations of that body; to sustain the men who will uphold the principles of the Whig party of the revolution and for all coming ages—any which I look upon as holding in its hands all that makes us great at home, or respected by foreign nations.

Mr. Salomon of Salem, and Gov. Paine of Vermont followed Mr. Webster. A hearty honest, patriotic enthusiasm governed their mass meeting at Boston, and it closed with nine cheers for the Cause and Country.

A galvanizing war rope, 123 miles long, has just been completed in London. It is intended for electrical communication upon one of the railways.

## For the Whig.

Messrs. Editors:—Permit me through the medium of your paper to offer a few thoughts upon the all absorbing question of the annexation of Texas. I wish to view it as a citizen of this Union—as a citizen of the South—as one whose interest is identified with the South and with its institutions, through weal and through woe. Perhaps my views may not accord with yours on this subject, they are entertained by me from the lights before me, and I assure you are not assumed because this or that man or party have taken them up. Are there not circumstances existing at this time, which would render the acquisition of Texas like Ben Franklin's whistle, too dear. Can it be doubted by any, that the annexation of Texas would be just cause of war on the part of Mexico? Does it not amount to a declaration of war on our part? Mexico and Texas are at war—Texas proposes to Mexico a cessation of hostilities for the space of six months, and in settling the terms of such armistice, acknowledges herself a colony of Mexico. In the meantime our Secretary of State Mr. Upshur, after begging and threatening Texas, by turns, holds the following language to her, which will be found in his letter to our minister in Texas, under date of the 16th January, 1844: "The pending negotiation with Mexico ought not to present any difficulty, unless Texas is prepared to go back again under the domination of that power," again, "If Mexico shall refuse that acknowledgment, (of her independence) Texas will the more need the protection which the United States now offers. Now at the termination of this armistice, unless some arrangement can, in the mean time, be made, hostilities will be resumed between the two countries, but when that period arrives she has incorporated herself into another government, for the purpose, as Mr. Upshur argues, of protection against Mexico; but if Texas can't treat away her independence, she cannot treat away her vast prairies, and as she has acknowledged to Mexico that she has of right the supreme authority over her limits, of course Mexico will contend for it; but who will she contend with—Texas will no longer be an independent nation, & cannot make war; she has placed herself under the protection of U.S., & this government will be bound in good faith, having promised "protection" to carry on the war for her. So far as the interest of this country is concerned, it matters but little whether it is a declaration on the part of this country, or not. If we follow the annexation, it must effect us as greatly as though it had commenced on our part, and the strong probability of such an event as war is recognised by Mr. U. in the above extract, and in the fact that the government has ordered Gen. Gaines to Fort Jessup, on our Western frontier, with an armed force. And what I would ask, is to become of the great Southern interest, in the event of war, which speculators in Texas lands & Texas scrip would have us believe to be in so great danger that it is necessary to annex Texas immediately to secure its safety. The occurrence of war, it seems to me, would militate much more against that interest than the non acquisition of Texas. Are the expenses of war nothing? are the crimes of murder, arson, robbery &c. the usual attendants upon war, among and upon citizens, who would otherwise be enjoying in peace and quiet the comforts of their homes and firesides nothing? Are the stoppage of our commerce, the production and manufacture of our staple articles, the production of all trade, the ruin of debtors and alarm and suffering of our citizens nothing? that we should rush headlong to acquire a country, which if sold would not pay the expenses of putting ourselves into a proper state of defence.

Mr. Adams calculates the cost of putting this country into a proper state of defence, at a sum above the whole amount of State indebtedness, at about \$20,000,000, which then can calculate the cost of prosecuting a war to a successful termination, or of the ruinous loss this country would meet with in the absence of all market for our cotton, hemp, tobacco and other productions which compose the wealth of the country, and upon which we are dependent individually for support, and for existence as a Nation. England too, has avowed her wish to see slavery abolished in the United States. What guarantee have we, that she would not make use of the opportunity presented, by a war with Mexico, to carry out her object, and thereby break down her greatest rival in the production and manufacture of cotton? But we will suppose that no war would follow the annexation of Texas to this country, which would be its effects in extending slavery and in strengthening the South? The fertile lands of Texas would be a tempting bait, which would draw from Delaware, Maryland, Virginia North Carolina and Kentucky, their slave population, until the slave-holders would finally be a minority, so weak as to be unable to control their legislation, the consequence of which would be abolition in those States. What will then be our gain? we will have brought into competition with us, a fish catch and sugar growing country, which would greatly reduce the profits of its production, we will have drawn off the negroes from five States and settled them in two or three at most, so that we will in the end be weaker by 4 or 6 votes in the Senate of the United States than at present.—But there is still another view which we should take of this question of still greater importance than all others. What other nations think of the infraction of our treaty with a Government who is acting in good faith towards us, and paying off in an honorable manner her indebtedness to us? What ought we to think of ourselves, to rob that Government of her acknowledged territory? Does it not better become us to pursue the maxims of our great ancestor? Our Washington, Madison, Jefferson, & a host of others, who were ever ready to offer up their lives and fortunes in defence of their country's honor and their country's glory? They taught us that the strict observance of good faith towards all nations would elevate and strengthen the National character, would cause

us to be respected by all nations as a nation of free men endeavoring to set an example to the world by maintaining our national dignity and honor. The time once was, when the title of "American citizen," abroad, was an honor to him who bore it; but now, alas, a hiss and a by word. And how has this come about? By acting in bad faith in our State capacities, and shall we crown our degradation by introducing such principles in the legislation of our General Government? God forbid! Let it be done in one instance, it will form a precedent for future action—it will pervade our every institution, until from corruption and rottenness, our present prosperous and happy country, like France under her Dantons and Robespierres will revolutionize itself and her streets flow red with the blood of her citizens. If not like Sodom and Gomorrah of old, she will be visited directly by the wrath of the Almighty, and be remembered only as a signal failure of the attempt of men at self government.

I am sorry to hear the union of the States spoken of so lightly in connection with this question of annexation. I believe that I can assert confidently that no man has ever avowed the opinion on the floor of Congress, that, that body had the right to interfere with slavery in the South, neither has there been an attempt by the North to abolish slavery among us—when such attempt is made, it will then be time to talk about a dissolution of the Union. The interest of the North and the South are so intimately blended that in it we have the strongest possible guard for the safety of our institution. I look upon such an event as the dissolution of this Union as fraught with far more mischief to the South than to the North. If such an event were to take place, we would of course establish for ourselves an independent government. Then what would be our situation in the event of a war with any other country? A circumstance liable at all times to take place with an enemy at home, desperate and held in check by no law either human or divine, and graded on by others—a foreign enemy to contend with, comparatively a sparse population, to oppose all this, and at the same time the whole civilized world against us on the subject of slavery? we should be unable to bear up against it. I believe in the preservation of the Union—I believe in choosing toward the North more good feeling than we have heretofore done, and finally I believe in confining ourselves to our present limits, and "improving the soil, which the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, has so bounteously bestowed upon us. In conclusion I will add, that I am sorry to see this matter assuming a party complexion—I think we should discuss it and act upon it without reference to party, but with that coolness and deliberation which should characterize men seeking after truth,

Yours,

AGRICOLA.

## A LETTER FROM MR. CLAY, HIS COURSE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL CANVASS.

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, May 3, 1844.

GENTLEMEN: Prior to the commencement and during the progress of the journey which I have recently made to some of the Southern States, I received numerous invitations to visit my friends and to deliver addresses in various parts of the Union. I was compelled to decline accepting the greater number of them, and in most instances transmitted answers accordingly, but as I may have omitted to reply to some of them, and as others addressed to me may not have reached me, at all such I request to be allowed, through the medium of your paper, to communicate a general and respectful answer, and to state the ground on which I shall feel constrained to place any similar invitations with which I may be in future honored.

These popular demonstrations of friendship, attachment, and confidence towards me are highly gratifying to my feelings, and are entitled to my personal and grateful acknowledgments. If it were suitable and proper, in my judgment, to meet assemblages of my fellow-citizens on the occasions proposed, I would embrace the opportunity with pleasure, and should exchange friendly salutations with those with whom I was placed in contact. But an event of importance took place on the first instant in Baltimore. A Convention of Delegates from the Whig party, coming from all parts of the United States, acting in conformity with the well ascertained wishes and sentiments of the Whigs of the United States, announced to me that they had elected me a candidate for the office of President of the United States, and from a high sense of duty, I have accepted the nomination. It has been, moreover, ratified by another Convention, composed of Delegates from every part of the United States, who assembled on the 2d instant in Baltimore. Being thus placed, with my own consent, in the attitude of a candidate for that high office I feel myself bound to respect and perform all the duties and obligations which appertain to me in that character.

The election of a Chief Magistrate of a free great, and enlightened nation is one of the gravest and most momentous functions which the People can exercise. It is emphatically and ought to be exclusively, their own business. Upon the wisdom of their choice depends the preservation and soundness of free institutions, and the welfare and prosperity of themselves. In making it, they should be free and impartial, and wholly unbiased by the conduct of a candidate himself. Not only in my opinion, is it his duty to abstain from all solicitation direct or indirect, of their suffrages, but he should avoid being voluntarily placed in situations to seek, or in which he might be supposed to seek, to influence their judgment.

Entertaining these views of what becomes a candidate for the exalted office of President of the United States, I shall abstain from every form of solicitation. Hereafter, and until the pending Presidential election is decided, I cannot accept nor attend any public meeting of my fellow-citizens, assembled in reference to that object, to which I may have been or shall be invited. It is my wish and intention, when I am free to return home, to be as quickly and as quietly as possible, and employing myself in my private business and affairs, there to await the decision of the Presidential election, acquiescing in it, whatever it may be, with the most perfect submission.

I hope those who have honored me with invitations to which I have not replied, and those who may have intended me the honor of transmitting others, will accept, without disapprobation, this exposition of the motives by which I am governed,

I am, gentlemen, your friend and obedient servant.

H. CLAY.

## THEODORE FRANKLIN.

The nomination of this distinguished son of New Jersey (though now a citizen of New York for Vice President on the Whig ticket), is every where hailed with approbation. He was the last proponent of all the candidates for that high office, and very naturally not the first choice of a great number and the active politicians; but on a comparison of notes he appeared the second choice of almost every body, and the great of many thousands who usually stand aloof from Political contests and would hardly have been drawn out to vote by the presentation of any other name. As an eminently just and true man, intimately conversant with the history of the country, and the history of the Whig party, he has been drawn out to vote by the presentation of any other name. As an eminently just and true man, intimately conversant with the history of the country, and the history of the Whig party, he has been drawn out to vote by the presentation of any other name. As an eminently just and true man, intimately conversant with the history of the country, and the history of the Whig party, he has been drawn out to vote by the presentation of any other name.

But Mr. Frélinghuysen is not merely a wise, philanthropic, and a firm, a decided, devoted Whig. He is of an honored Revolutionary Whig stock, and has never been untrue also but a Whig. He was a Whig U. S. Senator from New Jersey during administration of Gen. Jackson's Administration and fought the battle of true Liberty against all his mad encroachments and tyranny side by side with Clay, Webster, and Ewing, as a deputy and fearlessly as any of them. He resisted the destruction of the Bank, the Removal of the Deposits, and all the evil measures which brought down general paralysis and bankruptcy. He stood up manfully for Clay and Harrison in 1832, as he had before done for J. Q. Adams, and has since done for Harrison. In 1832, he was called on to address his fellow citizens of Essex County, N. Y., in regard to the then pending Presidential contest, and the foregoing summary of his remarks was so forcible that the Whigs of this city reprinted it as a little tract for general circulation. We now insert it verbatim as follows:

Mr. Frélinghuysen's Testimony to the character and qualifications of HENRY CLAY in 1832.

A meeting was recently held in Essex County, New Jersey, by the National Republican party, at which Mr. Frélinghuysen, the Senator from that State, was present and made a very eloquent speech in favor of Mr. Clay, which is thus epitomized in the Newark Advertiser:

Mr. Frélinghuysen, in support of the nomination of Clay to the office of Chief Magistrate, said that he was happy in the occasions that enabled him to bear his testimony to the fitness of this eminent citizen for the station to which so many voices were calling him. He was the more gratified by this opportunity, because he had a long period entertained doubts on the subject—but a careful investigation of Mr. Clay's political history, and a personal intercourse with him for the last protracted session, had satisfied his own mind that no man better understood the interests of the country, nor was more true to the people with purer intentions, than Mr. Clay. Mr. Frélinghuysen said he took pleasure to say of him that he believed him to be an upright and much injured statesman. He is emphatically the child of Liberty and our free institutions. He possesses no advantages in youth, but poverty and obscurity, and a humble origin, were not fit to indignantly repelled the unfounded pretensions of exclusive claims by any portion of the Union, demonstrated by the most conclusive reasoning, that the Public Lands were the fruit of common blood and treasure, and therefore were and ought to remain, a common fund for the benefit of the whole.

In conclusion, Mr. F. repeated his conviction, that while Mr. Clay was subject like all men to faults, he was worthy the confidence of his country; and to use the language of a political opponent there was no nobler about the man for you always know where to find him. Retrace his whole life, in many trying exigencies of the country, when, or where was it, that he betrayed the slightest symptoms of an equivocal or temporizing policy? It cannot be found. His opinions, and feelings, with all his views of National propriety, are of the nature and principles of our Constitution, are before his eyes. Every man can read them; and it is ardently hoped, that by a decided expression of the nation's will, both Mr. Clay and his measures will be sustained.

HINTS FOR LEAF-YEAR.—While ladies persist in maintaining the strictly defensive condition, men must naturally as it were, take the opposite line, that of attack, otherwise, if both parties held aloof there would be no more marriages; and the two hosts would die in their respective inaction without ever coming to a battle. Thus it is evident that, as the ladies will not, the men must take the offensive. I, for my part, have made at least a score of chivalrous attacks upon several strongly fortified hearts. Sometimes I began my works too late in the season, and winter suddenly came and rendered further labors impossible; sometimes I have attacked the breach madly, sword in hand, and have been plunged violently, from the scaling ladder into the ditch; sometimes I have made a decent lodgement in the place, when—bang! blows up a mine, and I am scattered to the duce and sometimes when I have been in the heart of the citadel, ah, that I should say it! a sudden panic has struck me, and I have run like the British out of Carthage! One grows tired of such white of such perpetual activity; it is not time that the ladies should take an innings! Let us widowers and bachelors form an association to take care, that, for the next hundred years, we will make love no longer. Let the young women come and make love to us; let them write us verses; let them ask us to dance, get us nice cups of tea, and help us on with our cloaks at the hall doors, and if they are eligible, we may perhaps be obliged to yield and say, "La, Miss Hopkings—I really am so delighted with your paper—Fraser's Magazine."

The Columbus Statesman tells Clayman of the Indiana Sentinel, an editor of the "strip." He will never be of the right of mind until well horse-whipped again.

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Columbus March 21, 1844.

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By 4, 1844.

slavery question has been brought up General Conference of the Methodist

against tolerating slavery from the Island Conference. Great excitement occasioned: The memorial was finally

Double acts of reports may be looked We wait the action of this powerful

with much anxiety. We are happy to see Mr. Winsans there. He can state more and with more force than any man in the presence, and though we don't like his politics, we will stake our lives on his patriotism support of our rights. Old Father Griffin Madison county should be there. It was

ago, that they ought to be rammed, jammed, and doubled down into a four pounder, and shot into—If they were in their infernal dens.

The Phalanx, No. IX, has been issued by J. Webster. Its leading paper is an analysis of the recent debate in the British House of Commons on the subject of the abolition of Factory Labor, its honors and its rewards. All who read this paper, and read it in the columns of the Phalanx, where its true significance is vividly displayed.

The remaining articles are "Constructive and Pacific Democracy," by Parke Godwin, "Fouquier's Introduction to the History of Universal Union," (translated), for the University of Ontario, located on Canadian Outlet; "The Laborer's Popularity at Boston," Review of Mr. Charles Fourier; "The Cry of the Children," by Eliza B. Barrett; "What is Association?" There is greater variety and spirit in this than in the preceding numbers, and we trust the work is increasing in popularity and patronage.